## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

| CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE      | § |                            |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| INSURANCE COMPANY AND         | § |                            |
| CIGNA HEALTH AND LIFE         | § |                            |
| INSURANCE COMPANY             | § |                            |
|                               | § | JURY DEMANDED              |
| Plaintiff,                    | § |                            |
|                               | § |                            |
| VS.                           | § | CIVIL ACTION: 4:13-CV-3291 |
|                               | § |                            |
| HUMBLE SURGICAL HOSPITAL, LLC | § |                            |
|                               | § |                            |
| Defendant.                    | § |                            |

## Humble Surgical Hospital's Emergency Motion to Compel Reasonable Disclosure of Trial Witnesses

Cigna has identified thirteen live witnesses on its witness list, and subpoenaed two more. Five of those live witnesses were listed by Humble, not Cigna, on its trial list and Cigna intends to call those five adverse: three are Humble employees, and the two subpoenaed witnesses are doctors who performed procedures at Humble and who have ownership interests in the facility as well.

The parties agreed that each witness will be called one time. If Cigna calls a Humble witness adverse, that witness likely will not take the stand again.

In light of this agreement and Cigna's fifteen possible live witnesses, Humble proposed that each side disclose the witnesses it intends to call on a particular trial day by 5:00 pm two days before that witness is called. For example, Tuesday's witnesses would be identified on Sunday by 5:00 pm, Wednesday's witnesses on Monday at 5:00 pm, and so forth.

Case 4:13-cv-03291 Document 166 Filed on 01/08/16 in TXSD Page 2 of 3

Cigna rejected Humble's proposal, saying that it would disclose its witness the

night before by 5:00 pm. Humble countered with a compromise of 9:00 am the day

before. Cigna rejected the compromise.

Humble respectfully requests that this Court order the parties to disclose their trial

witnesses (1) by 5:00 pm two days before a witness is anticipated to be called or (2) by

9:00 am the day before a witness is anticipated to be called. Cigna's proposed disclosure

by 5:00 pm the night before is no disclosure at all and constitutes trial by ambush, and it

is unreasonable to demand that all of Humble's witnesses, and third-party doctors with

patient-focused practices stand ready to be summoned by Cigna in less than 16 hours

(most of which are overnight hours).

Cigna has no good reason to delay disclosure. Cigna's refusal to agree to a

reasonable witness disclosure schedule is simply designed to prejudice Humble and

burden its witnesses.

Dated: January 8, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ John P. Lahad

Brian D. Melton

Southern District of Texas No. 26016

State Bar No. 24010620

bmelton@susmangodfrey.com

Jonathan J. Ross

Southern District of Texas No. 18293

State Bar No. 00791575

jross@susmangodfrev.com

John P. Lahad

Southern District of Texas No. 1114929

State Bar No. 24068095

4060485v1/014796

jlahad@susmangodfrey.com

SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P. 1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 5100 Houston, Texas 77002

Telephone: (713) 651-9366 Facsimile: (713) 654-6666

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT HUMBLE SURGICAL HOSPITAL LLC

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been served on the undersigned counsel via email, on the 8th day of January 2016, as follows:

John B. Shely
Dena Palermo
Brian Pidcock
ANDREWS KURTH LLP
600 Travis Street, Suite 4200
Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 220-4152
(713) 238-7206 fax

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

/s/ John P. Lahad John P. Lahad